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COMMISSIONERS APPROVE PLANS FOR DARBYDALE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Columbus, OH – Franklin County's Board of Commissioners in General Session yesterday approved plans for the construction of the Darbydale Wastewater Treatment Facility and Collection System and authorized the Franklin County Sanitary Engineer to advertise for bids for its construction.

Tom Shockley, Franklin County's Sanitary Engineer, advised the commissioners yesterday that 100% of the funding is now in place for this six million dollar project.

"I'm happy to see this project move forward," said Dewey Stokes, commission board president. "This is a culmination of our efforts to clean up this area and eliminate the serious health concerns which have resulted from failing septic and aeration systems serving some 325 homes and businesses that make up the Darbydale community."

"This project addresses longstanding environmental issues within the Darbydale community," said Commissioner Arlene Shoemaker. "The fact that we've arrived at this point is a tribute to community teamwork and to an unflagging desire to ensure the health and welfare of our citizens."

"All residents in the area should be able to tap into the new sanitary sewer line," said Commissioner Mary Jo Kilroy. "We have instituted a program to assist low income residents and seniors on fixed incomes with that cost."

The construction bid postings will be up beginning in early January 2004 with bid openings slated for mid-February. The Franklin County Sanitary Engineer hopes to begin work on or about March 15, 2004 with a completion date of approximately May 1, 2005.

The engineering consultant for this project is Floyd Browne & Associates of Marion, Ohio.